

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the present application as evidenced by the Official Action of February 27, 2007 (hereinafter "Office Action"). In particular, Applicants appreciate the withdrawal of the previous rejection of the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in light of the arguments presented in Applicants' Appeal Brief of November 6, 2006.

In response, Applicants have amended the independent claims as suggested by the Examiner to advance prosecution and further clarify the recitations thereof. In particular, independent claims 1, 24, 25, 32, 42, and 46 have been amended to remove the conditional recitations of "if", such that the first document (or first mini-document) "represents results from portlets which have acquired their content but does not represent results of all portlets". The independent Claims have also been amended to recite that the updated document (or updated mini-document) "represents results from one or more portlets which had not acquired their content when the first document was returned". As such, Applicants note that the first document is implicitly returned before all portlet information is gathered, as the first document does not represent results from all portlets, while the updated document represents results from portlets which had not acquired their content when the first document was returned. Applicants submit that these amendments are fully supported by the specification as originally filed, and as such, no new matter has been added.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are patentable over the cited references for least reasons discussed below.

Independent Claims 1, 24, 25, 32, 42, and 46 Are Patentable

Claims 1-7, 10-16, 24-29, 32-35, 42-44 and 46-49 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0034771 to Hutsch et al. (hereinafter "Hutsch") in view of the publication *HTML's META-tag: HTTP-EQUIV* by Alan Richmond (hereinafter "Richmond") and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,832,263 to Polizzi et al. (hereinafter "Polizzi"). Applicants respectfully submit that many of the recitations of these claims are neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited combination. For example, Claim 1 as amended recites:

1. A method of incrementally rendering content in a content framework:

receiving a request for a portal page, wherein one or more portlets provide content for the portal page;

immediately returning a response message containing a first document, wherein the first document represents results from portlets which have acquired their content but does not represent results from all portlets; and

programmatically generating a mechanism for delivering an updated document responsive to immediately returning the response message containing the first document. (*Emphasis added*).

Applicants respectfully submit that at least the highlighted recitations of Claim 1 are neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited combination.

The Office Action asserts that Hutsch discloses a network portal system comprising portlets and requests therefor in Figure 3A. *See* Office Action, Page 4. As illustrated in Hutsch, the portal system includes a portlet manager **321** that interacts with a plurality of portlets **324**. *See* Hutsch, Figure 3A. More particularly, with reference to Figure 3A, Hutsch describes that "[w]eb top manager **111** includes a web server **320**. Web server **320** includes a desktop servlet **322** coupled to a presentation and logic system **323** that provides a presentation and logic service, and optionally, a portlet manager **321** that interacts with a plurality of portlets **324**". Hutsch, Paragraph 0124. In further describing the web top manager **111**, Hutsch states:

[0100] Hence, upon retrieving the requested content using the handle provided by UCB **113**, **web-top manager 111 loads, for example, a template and fills in all user specific content in the template using the retrieved content.** **The completed template is transmitted to client device 102i for display.** Alternatively, web-top manager **111** retrieves a stylesheet and uses the stylesheet to transform the content into a format that can be displayed on client device **102i**.

Hutsch, Paragraph 0100 (*emphasis added*). Accordingly, Hutsch discusses loading a template with content, and then providing the **completed** template to the client device. In other words, the **completed** template is transmitted to the client device *after* all of the information is gathered.

In contrast, Claim 1 as amended recites receiving a request for a portal page and *immediately returning* a first document **that does not represent the results of all portlets.** Thus, a **partially-completed** document is returned *immediately, i.e., before* all the portlet information is gathered. *See*, for example, Specification, Page 21, lines 3-9. Accordingly, as Hutsch describes transmitting a **completed** template *after* all of the information is gathered,

Applicants submit that the cited portions of Hutsch do not disclose or suggest "immediately returning a response message", as recited by Claim 1 as amended. Nor does the Office Action rely on Richmond and/or Polizzi as disclosing or suggesting these recitations. Thus, Applicants submit that Claim 1 as amended is patentable over the combination of the cited references for at least these reasons.

Furthermore, Claim 1 as amended recites "programmatically generating a mechanism for delivering an updated document responsive to immediately returning the response message". As noted above, the response message contains a first document that does *not* represent the results of all of the portlets. The Office Action concedes that Hutsch fails to disclose or suggest these recitations, but argues that the programmatic updating of document caches described in Richmond provides the missing teachings. *See* Office Action, Page 5.

However, the cited portion of Richmond discusses a META tag "that can be used by caches to determine **when** to fetch a fresh copy of the associated document." Richmond, Page 1 (*emphasis added*). In particular, Richmond notes that the document may be updated when the stated time of Tuesday, August 20, 1996 expires. *See* Richmond, Page 1. In other words, Richmond discloses updating a document responsive to expiration of a specified *time*, not responsive to immediately returning a *partially complete document*. As such, Richmond does not disclose or suggest "programmatically generating a mechanism for delivering an updated document responsive to immediately returning the response message containing the first document" that does not represent results of all portlets, as recited by Claim 1 as amended.

Nor does Polizzi disclose or suggest these recitations. Polizzi is directed to dynamically updating portal objects in a portal page that includes a plurality of portal objects. *See* Polizzi, Abstract. More particularly, as described in Polizzi:

Another feature of the portal page is a dynamically updated portal object. **A dynamically updated portal object is an object that is updated on the user's portal page based upon data stored in the portal system.** If a dynamically updated portal object is included within a user's portal page, the user may receive the latest information corresponding to that object by refreshing his portal page. **For example, if the dynamically updated portal object is linked to the output report of a job, then the portal object will display the latest version of the output report to the user when the portal page is refreshed.** A dynamically updated portal object may also be hyperlinked to its corresponding object in the portal system such that a user may view, edit, or execute the corresponding object by clicking on the dynamically updated portal object at the user interface.

Polizzi, Col. 2, lines 51-65 (*emphasis added*). Accordingly, Polizzi describes that a portal object may be dynamically updated responsive to the user refreshing the portal page. However, Applicants respectfully submit that dynamically updating a portal object responsive to a user refresh command does not disclose or suggest programmatically generating a mechanism for delivering an updated document responsive to returning a document that does not represent the results of all portlets. In other words, Polizzi does not disclose or suggest updating the portal page responsive to delivering a partially complete page as an immediate response to the page request. Thus, Polizzi also does not disclose or suggest "programmatically generating a mechanism for delivering an updated document responsive to immediately returning the response message", as recited by Claim 1 as amended.

Furthermore, Applicants note that, even if Hutsch, Richmond, and Polizzi could be properly combined, the combination would teach loading a template with content to provide the **completed** template to the client device, and refreshing the **completed** template upon expiration of a predetermined time and/or responsive to a user refresh command. As such, the combination of Hutsch, Richmond, and Polizzi does not disclose or suggest programmatically generating a mechanism for delivering an updated document responsive to immediately returning a **partially-completed** document that "does not represent results of all portlets", as recited by Claim 1 as amended. As such, even if combined, the cited references fail to disclose or suggest the recitations of Claim 1 as amended.

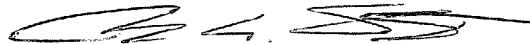
Accordingly, Applicants submit that none of the cited references, either alone or in combination disclose or suggest the "immediately returning a response message" and "programmatically generating a mechanism for delivering an updated document" recitations of Claim 1. Thus, Claim 1 is patentable over the combination of the cited references for at least the above reasons. Claims 32 and 46 contain system and computer program product recitations corresponding to the method of Claim 1, and are thus patentable for at least similar reasons. In addition, independent Claim 24 similarly recites "immediately returning a response message" and "automatically delivering an updated document responsive to immediately returning the response message containing the first document", and as such, is patentable for at least similar reasons. Also, independent Claim 25 recites "immediately returning a response message containing a first mini-document, wherein the first document represents results from portlets which have acquired their content but does not represent

results of all portlets" and "programmatically generating a mechanism for delivering an updated mini-document responsive to immediately returning the response message", and is thus also patentable for at least similar reasons. Claim 42 contains system recitations corresponding to the method of Claim 25, and is thus patentable for at least similar reasons. Furthermore, the dependent claims are patentable at least per the patentability of independent Claims 1, 25, 32, 42, and 46 from which they depend.

Conclusion

Applicants again appreciate the thorough examination of the present application. However, in light of the amendments discussion presented above, Applicants submit that all of the pending claims are patentable over the cited references, and that the present application is therefore in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned representative at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,



Rohan G. Sabapathypillai
Registration No. 51,074

USPTO Customer No. 46589
Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec
Post Office Box 37428
Raleigh, North Carolina 27627
Telephone: (919) 854-1400
Facsimile: (919) 854-1401